

**Pawtuxet River Authority
And Watershed Council
Historic Harris Mill
618 Main Street
Coventry, RI 02816
401-615-7039
www.pawtuxet.org**

**Monthly Board Meeting
April 2, 2007**

Board Members Present: Jim McCaughey, Robert Nero, Brian Manning, Jack Lancellotta, Jack Donovan, Scott Goodinson

Board Members Absent: Arthur Langlais

Associate Board Members Present:

Associate Board Members Absent: Richard Dorr, Vincent DiGiulio, Robert Zulegar, Dan Meunier

Guests: Rita Holahan

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Nero noting that a quorum was present called the meeting

to order at 7:10 PM.

2. Minutes from Last Meeting

Minutes from March Meeting –not available – will be e-mailed to all members

3. PRA Budget

The Town of Scituate has the PRA annual payment in their FY2007/2008 budget proposal \$2,800. Discussion took place regarding back payment due to the PRA from the Town of Scituate. Jim McCaughey suggested that the PRA wait for this year's payment and then send a letter to Scituate outlining past due payments and that interest will be accrued.

The Town of West Warwick also did not submit a payment to the PRA for FY 2006/2007.

Total town payments currently total \$16,000/year.

Harris Dam Project – is currently on hold – developer is waiting to see if they can get a license for the Scituate Dam.

Warwick recently raised their contribution amount from \$1,500 to \$2,800/year.

Rita suggested that the PRA fill all board positions and put the responsibilities on the applicable board members to assure proper payments are received.

Jack brought up the issue of past attempts by the PRA to increase the number of contributing cities/towns and that an easier approach would be to change the format of the board such that the Governor appoints a chairman and a line item for the board be placed on the state annual budget.

Chairman Nero stated that any requests for additional funds made to the contributing cities and towns must be clearly justified.

4. Annual Report

Status of FY2005/2006 Annual Report - Chairman Nero stated that the annual report for FY 2005/2006 has been completed and submitted to all contributing cities and towns.

Status of FY 2006/2007 annual report – the Chairman is currently working on the annual report – Jim McCaughey suggested that other board members form appropriate sub-committees to assist with addressing required work activities.

5. Results from Saturday March 31, 2007 Clean-Up at Harris Dam

Three board members and a volunteer, Ginny Lawton, showed up to assist with clearing brush and debris away from dam. Trees were cut down with several more that still need to be cut. Will Lemus is looking to having URI do some work. The PRA is attempting to defoliate the entire dirt mound in front of the dam and eventually plant grass in this areas. Chairman Nero will investigate getting grant funds to purchase a chipper.

6. New Business

Chairman Nero stated that Harris dam, which is owned by the PRA, is in need of some repairs. Chairman Nero stated another dam authority in Smithfield has in the past held fund raisers and that the PRA should consider doing the same.

Jack stated that a clean-up is scheduled for the Phenix Mill area on Saturday April 7th from 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM.

A clean-up at Pocasset on the Johnston town line is scheduled for Saturday April 14th.

Scott stated that the City of Warwick owns Cranberry Bog in Warwick – the PRA may be interested in taking over this property as a potential site for a fish habitat.

7. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM